

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 CENSUS PROFILES NEW YORK FARMERS AND AGRICULTURE

Value of New York Agricultural Products Sold increases to \$5.42 Billion

Albany, New York, May 2, 2014 – Today the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results sharing a wide-range of information about what agricultural products were raised in the United States in 2012, and where, how and by whom they were grown. The data, which is reported at the national, state and county level, will help farmers, ranchers, local officials, agribusiness and others make decisions for the future.

"The 2012 Census of Agriculture provides a wide range of demographic, economic, land, and crop and livestock production information as well as first-time or expanded data," said Blair Smith, New York State Statistician. "Many of these data about New York and our counties are only collected and reported as part of the every-five-year census."

The 2012 Census of Agriculture data show the following key trends for New York.

- Land in farms increased slightly from 2007 to 7.18 million acres.
- Number of farms decreased 2 percent from 2007 to 35,537 in 2012.
- The value of livestock products sold increased 11 percent to \$3.17 billion.
- The value of crop products sold increased 44 percent to \$2.25 billion.
- The average age of farm operators continued the long term trend and increased to 57.1 years.
- Net cash farm income increased 3 percent to \$1.22 billion.

To provide easier access to the data, NASS created a number of online tools for people to find and use Census data, including:

- Quick Stats 2.0 an online database to retrieve customized tables. For those new to this tool, a new <u>tutorial video</u> provides easy-to-follow instructions.
- API a tool for developers.
- Agricultural Atlas Maps profiles of the nation's agriculture at the county-level in a series of multicolor pattern and dot maps
- <u>Desktop Data Query Tool</u>- a downloadable desktop tool to analyze data without Internet access once you have downloaded and installed this tool.

For more information about the Census of Agriculture including all the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results, and tools to access and share the data, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov.

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